

*Guides to Special Collections
in the Music Division of the Library of Congress*

**ARTUR RODZINSKI
COLLECTION**

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu2005.wp.0043>

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Introduction

The Artur Rodzinski Collection documents the life and career of the eminent Polish conductor Artur Rodzinski (1892-1958). The present installment of the collection, comprising chiefly music (manuscript, printed scores and parts), correspondence, clippings, and programs, was delivered to the Library of Congress on January 4, 1999 in 21 cartons. A brief inventory of the collection follows.

Biographical Sketch

Artur Rodzinski was born in Spalato, Dalmatia (now Croatia), in 1892. He studied music in Lwów, Poland, before taking a law degree in Vienna. While in Austria, Rodzinski pursued advanced musical studies: composition with Joseph Marx and Franz Schreker; conducting with Franz Schalk; and piano with Emil Sauer, a Liszt pupil. He continued lessons with Jerzy Lalewicz upon his return to Poland.

Rodzinski started as a choral conductor, and then made his conducting debut with *Ernani* at the Lwów Opera in 1920. The next year he was employed in Warsaw at the Philharmonic and the Opera, where he introduced *Der Rosenkavalier*, Wolf-Ferrari's *I gioielli della madonna*, and Ravel's *L'heure espagnole*. Leopold Stokowski invited Rodzinski to visit Philadelphia in 1925. He appeared first as guest conductor and then, in 1926, was appointed assistant conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra. During his time in Philadelphia, Rodzinski was in charge of the opera and orchestral departments of the Curtis Institute.

A series of prestigious conducting jobs followed. In 1929, Rodzinski took over as director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra. Four years later he joined the Cleveland Orchestra. During his ten years there, the orchestra became known as a leading virtuoso ensemble, presenting the American premiere of Shostakovich's *Lady MacBeth of the Mtsensk District*. Rodzinski was a sought-after guest conductor during the 1930s, appearing with the New York Philharmonic in 1934 and 1937, notably with Rose Pauly in one of the most celebrated performances of Strauss' *Elektra*. At the request of Toscanini, NBC hired Rodzinski to assemble and train its new orchestra. Amid some controversy over personnel, the conductor took over the New York Philharmonic in 1942. Although he created an indisputably brilliant orchestra, difficult personnel issues continued and Rodninski resigned in 1947. He then spent the following year as director of the Chicago Symphony in a season that met with great public and critical acclaim. A particular highlight was his direction of *Tristan*, with Kirsten Flagstad in her return to the U.S. following the war.

In declining health, Rodzinski made guest appearances in Latin America and in Europe. He settled in Italy, where he continued to conduct opera to great success. In Florence in 1953, he gave the first performance outside of Russia of Prokofiev's *War and Peace*. Shortly before his death in 1958, Rodzinski's last performances were in Chicago at the Lyric Opera, where he again presented *Tristan*. The conductor died in Boston.

Container List

CORRESPONDENCE

<i>Box/Folder</i>	<i>Contents</i>
1/1	Conductor
1/2	Soloist
1/3	Musicians
2	1942 -1945 (A - Z)
3	January 1949 - October 1949
4	October 1949 - May 1950
5	1949 - unfiled
6/1	1951
6/2	Symphony Orch.
6/3	Columbia Records
7/1	1953
7/2	Personal
7/3	Official
7/4	Anecdotal
8	Composers

SCRAPBOOKS

9	1932 - 1933
10	1944

CLIPPINGS

11	Clippings
12	Clippings
13	Clippings
14	Clippings
15	Clippings
16	Clippings

PRINTED MUSIC

By Others

17	A - Bach
18	Bai - Becker
19	Beethoven
20	Beethoven - Ber
21	Bil - Brahms
22	Brit - Chab
23	Chas - Cowell
24	Damrosch - Del
25	Dia - Duk
26	Dvorak
27	E - F
28	G

PRINTED MUSIC

<i>Box/Folder</i>	<i>Contents</i>
29	Haa - Hil
30	Hin - Ives
31	J
32	Ka - Kl
33	Koc - Kre
34	Lab - Lil
35	Lis - Lut
36	McC - Mah
37	Mak -Mes
38	Miaskowsky
39	Mil - Mly
40	Moniuszko
41	Mon - Mül
42	N - O
43	Pal - Pil
44	Pis - Pol
45	Pon - Pro
46	Pur - Rea
47	Reg - Rim
48	Rim - Róz
49	Sab - Schm
59	Scho - Schu
51	Seb - Sib
52	Sie - Sme
53	Smi - Ste
54	Strauss
55	Strav - Sza
56	Tan - Tur
57	V
58	Wage - Wagn
59	Wagn - Wei
60	Whi - Wol
61	Zador
Oversize	
62	Ant -Bur
63	Car -Cow
64	Dia - Ful
65	Gar - Har
66	Har - Ifu
67	Jor - Mar
68	Mar - Pin
69	Por - Rap
70	Red - Str
71	Szy - Wil